

DOCKET NO: 293163US26PCT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
NOBUAKI MATSUOKA, ET AL. : ATTN: APPLICATION DIVISION  
SERIAL NO: 10/585,975 :  
FILED: JULY 13, 2006 :  
FOR: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING :  
APPARATUS AND SUBSTRATE :  
PROCESSING METHOD :

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

Prior to a first examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 9 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 15 this paper.